

August 9, 2013

# Weekly Views

Please join the Plainfield Correctional Facility on Thursday, August 15 in honoring Assistant Superintendent Phil Slavens as he embarks on his retirement after 44 years of dedicated service to the Indiana Department of Correction. The retirement celebration will be held at the Plainfield Conference Center located at the Old Boys School (Superintendent's House) from 1:30 to 4:30pm.

Carol Kornas from the Castleton United Methodist Church donated more than 100 backpacks with school supplies to the Indiana Women's Prison. The backpacks were donated to the facility for the offenders participating in the Family Preservation Program to give to their children. "The offenders are very appreciative for the kindness displayed by Ms. Kornas and the Castleton United Methodist Church", said Mr. Horan, Program Director. (photo right)

Commissioner Lemmon, Superintendent Stan Knight and various Putnamville Correctional Facility and Central Office staff met with representatives from Toyota, GMC, Community Corrections and Work One Western Indiana at Putnamville to discuss a work release, job placement program for offenders.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) staff took part in the Linton, IN National Night Out which drew thousands into Humphreys Park. Members of the WVCF Fire Department and Emergency Squad represented the facility at the hugely successful event. Sullivan City Park was the next stop for the Wabash crew as they joined area law enforcement, fire departments, social service agencies, organizations

and business for Sullivan County Night Out activities. "What a great way to interact with the public we serve, sharing our story with thousands of people in a relaxed, informal setting," said Superintendent Richard Brown. National Night Out promotes crime prevention and safety. (photo left)

The Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) would like to welcome Gerard Spears who has been hired as a Unit Manager at the facility. Mr. Spears was previously employed at the New Castle Correctional Facility. Everyone at PCF would like to express good luck to Mr. Spears who will be assigned as the Unit Manager for I-Complex and the Outside Dorm.

Bill Glass Champions for Life Ministry held a program at the Indiana State Prison.

Approximately 25 volunteers were in attendance for the program. The program was held in the recreation yard and consisted of motorcycles that were on display for the offenders to see. Singers Rebecca and Zachariah Alwin performed in the recreation yard, and Singer Tammy Chaney Comstock went to the lock-up units and x-row to perform for the offenders. The program was well received by the offender population.

Gary Hofmeister, entrepreneur and founder of Hofmeister Jewelers, visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) as the keynote speaker for IREF's Circle Discussion group. Circle Discussion is a pilot program geared towards setting up networking opportunities, and facilitating conversation between soon-to-be-released residents from the facility with business owners and employers in the community.

Correctional Industrial Facility Officer Steve Hatfield (pictured right) completed the Bloomington Bicycle Clubs' Ride Across Indiana "Rain Ride". The ride is 160 miles along US 40 from St. Mary's of the Woods College, located west of Terre Haute, to Earlham College in Richmond. Over 1,300 bikers started the ride and only 971 finished, including Officer Hatfield. Officer Hatfield collected donations from co-workers for the ride and presented a check for \$1060 to Homes for Wounded Warriors. Hatfield served in the U.S. Air Force and has a son who is currently serving in the Marines. "It means a lot to be able to help Homes for Wounded Warriors (HW/WP) provide a safe place for our soldiers when they come home". HW/WP is a non-profit organization designed and focused on providing specially designed homes to seriously wounded veterans of Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) Employee Action Planning Committee (EAPC) hosted the facility's first annual summer in the park picnic. Over 100 past and present WCC staff and their families gathered at a local park for a day of grilling, games and good times with friends away from work. The EAPC members volunteer their time and efforts to sponsor these extracurricular activities that help promote camaraderie among staff.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held an ice cream social for the students in connection with the Why Try program. Flora Lions Club volunteers Ronald Winger and Roger Beckner provided the ice cream for the students and after the event spoke to the students about how service organizations such as the Lions Club can assist students in "getting plugged in" to their communities in a positive role. The staff and students also took this time to remember long time Lions Club member and facility volunteer mentor Eric Johnson. (photo left)

Putnamville Correctional Facility Oakland City University (OCU) Horticulture Instructor Brenda Gullet and 20 offenders harvested 2845 pounds of various vegetables for donation to the Putnam County Emergency Food Pantry. The food was delivered by Assistant Superintendent Mike Rains and OCU Site Manager Barbara Auman.

